

Sevens Gaiden - WN Chapter 00-03

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Prologue: My Name is Lyle!

So here's a new series Cnine may or may not finish translating. It's a sequel/side-story of [Sevens](#) or something... Feel free to leave your thoughts about this series. Enjoy~

Translator : Cnine

Editor : SenjiQ, Crimson Nanashi

Proofreader : Vrryou

ED : Slight spoilers for the main series, I guess.

PF : Quite different from what I had envisioned.

Prologue「My Name Is Lyle!」

Time flows by and several hundred years later, it was an era where humanity lived within colonies, surrounded by walls[\[1\]](#).

With the development of powerful magic tools, humanity achieved greater power than ever before. However, in order to pursue even greater power, humanity confined themselves within walls several hundred years ago. The areas outside of the colonies were referred to as the monster's territory.

There was a time when mankind prospered and ruled over all the lands.

However nowadays, their living environment was just within the colonies. Many humans spent their entire lives confined within those narrow and confined colonies.

Even in that kind of situation, there were a few humans who dared to venture out of the colonies to fight against the monsters. Previously they were called adventurers; now they call themselves [Hunters].

Many of their members had control over the colonies, it was the way the guild showed its power in the battle for supremacy.

That was the current state of the world.

The world where once upon a time, Lyle and his company fought to restore peace to the world and just narrowly emerged victorious.

The 13th Colony.

It was a colony with a population of 2 million; just a regular pipe-type colony [2].

The ones that could afford to be in the sunlight were greatly limited among the 2 million because only the wealthy were allowed to live in upper strata.

In the shoe locker room of the school located in the middle strata of that colony, a boy stood in front of his shoe rack.

Despite it being graduation day, the boy was alone. His shoe rack was vandalized and had trash thrown into it.

Even in the graduation atmosphere, that environment made it impossible for a grand celebration. The parents that came to pick up their children; could that be considered to be a small luxury? There were students who were boasting that they were going to have dinner with their family.

But, for the boy— for the boy with the quirky orange hair, he had no parents to congratulate him.

The orange haired boy was a little sad. When he wiped his eyes with his sleeve, his pupils regained a bit of their shine. He brushed off the trash from his shoe rack and retrieved his shoes.

There were the words 「Underdog Hunter」 written on his shoe with a magic marker. It was the alias of his father.

「My father was not an underdog.」

That was muttered by the boy called 【Leo Walt】. He's 12 years old. Though his height was a little below average, he was actually a boy who was more suited to lovely smiles. But, recently, his smile had diminished.

Underdog Hunter. The 13th Colony, the guild region that was located in a place once called 【Beim】 , was where his father once worked as a hunter.

Leo admired his father since very young age but, in the end, his father was just a [C-Rank] hunter. Moreover, he was called underdog since he couldn't use magic tools. He heard that occasionally, when he received bullying from his classmates.

Because of recklessly diving into the labyrinth, many monsters ascended to the 13th Colony. Moreover, his father also went to fight them. But, what came back was only a bloodstained silver pendant. Embedded in the pendant was a blue gem; currently that was Leo's most important treasure [3].

At the age of 10, his mother, who raised him, passed away. It was because of a hunter riot in the colony; she died while protecting Leo from a collapsing building.

Thereupon, he heard his class from inside the classroom.

「Oi, underdog!」

「Seriously! Oi, underdog!」

「Stop it already, it will make us seem close and will affect us. Moreover, since his parents were also trash, papa and mama said not to get close to him [4].」

Leo was really annoyed, hearing the jeers of his classmates. He turned his head back and spoke to his classmates.

「HE WAS NOT AN UNDERDOG! FATHER FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE! HE FOUGHT AS A HUNTER! MOTHER TOO, SHE WHO DIED TO PROTECT ME..... AREN'T TRASH!」

Their lives weren't in vain.

Living inside the narrow colony was extremely harsh for a weak person. Everyone yearned for the upper layer and sought relief in seeing the ones lower than them.

Living in the under layer was gloomy. As a weak person, Leo became an easy target for bullying in such an environment. Thereupon, three boys left the class and walked towards Leo.

「Huh? Repeat what you just said, underdog. I'm gonna beat you if you don't say anything.」

The one who arrived to beat Leo was the leader of his bullies. Leo made a fist and swung it at the bully's face.

His fist sank into the face of the bully and blew him away from where he was standing. Leo trembled and looked at his fist. He had never hit anyone up until then.

Even though he had endured up until then, he could no longer restrain himself.

「Ow. It hurts! Y— You, my elder brother is a【B-Rank】hunter. I'll tell him to get my revenge!」^[5]

C-Ranks were the lowest ranked Hunters, while B-Ranks were platoon leaders and after them were the A-Ranks. Sitting at the top of the pyramid were the strongest representatives of the guild: the S-Ranks.

And, speaking of B-Rank hunters, it meant that they were successful as a hunter. A-Ranks were made up of a small handful of the Hunters and S-Ranks were exceptionally rare.

Hearing that, Leo's clenched fist faltered.

「SO WHAT!? It's also what I want to do! I'll also become a hunter! SOMEDAY I WILL CLIMB TO THE TOP, AND BECOME THE STRONGEST HUNTER!」

Thereupon, the classmates in the surroundings began to beat him. The girls took a little distance, looking at that scene while giggling at him^[6].

「Can you do that, underdog!?!」

「Let see how you do that! Despite your low suitability level with magic tools!」^[7]

「——Is he an idiot? Despite being a failure.」

Leo had become tattered. His classmates soon lost their interest and left. Afterwards, Leo spat out the blood from the cuts inside his mouth.

Tightly he grasped at the pendant, which was his family heirloom. It was just a little, but he felt warm.

「Father wasn't an underdog. Father was...」

In his heart, he recalled the words spoken by his father when he was still alive.

『Father became a hunter so that, someday, I could protect people. Though I'm still weak right now, someday I will definitely reach the top and become an S-Rank hunter.』

Thereupon, his mother had been surprised when she heard that.

『Before saying that, please start by aiming for B-Rank first. Look, it's time for a meal』

It was a cheerful family. The house was narrow. Leo was raised under artificial light and never saw the sun's light. The stories of his father fighting monsters that appeared outside were more exciting to Leo than any adventure story.

Leo swore in his heart that he too would become an adventurer someday.

But, reality wasn't so kind.

『...What's with that suitability level. That I can't use almost any magic tools... that doesn't mean that I can't become strong. I'm just bad at aiming, is all. That's why my suitability level is so low.』

Suitability level was a compulsory examination for people who lived in the colony. It was to check their compatibility with magic tools; if they possessed a high aptitude then they would receive a summon from the guild. With a few exceptions, while people could become a hunter without taking an examination; generally they were strengthened by magic tools. That was why suitability level had such importance.

Working in the colony after graduating from school was not unusual.

For the parentless Leo, it was necessary for him to find a job immediately. That's was why he was thinking about becoming a hunter. Without doing so, he would be driven out from the house he was currently living in.

He somehow able to live alone with the money left by his parents, but that money was almost all used up.

At that rate, he would ended up being sent to the colony's lower layer. Becoming a forced laborer wasn't that unusual there. So to Leo, right after graduation was his chance; his only chance.

Leo stood up and headed home, slowly dragging his bruised body.

He returned home while chewing on his frustration.

「I don't know. Never seen it, either.」

「Is that so? That's regrettable. Then, if you'll excuse me.」

An elderly man operating a street stall saw off a strange woman. Looking at her back, Leo let out a sigh.

She was a lovely young lady. In one hand she held a suitcase. Her posture was unmistakably a well-mannered one. There was not a single person like her in the vicinity of the old man's stall.

「She really stands out in a place so close to the lower layer.」

The public order in the place could not be said to be good. A girl like that to walking by herself was literally an invitation for thugs.

This was the middle layer. Furthermore, the level closest to the lower layer had bad public order. It wasn't a place for a girl who looked like a servant working in the upper layer.

Despite being warned, she still wore her red maid outfit and black boots. The girl with blond twin tails and wearing a white apron, only said "It's alright". Her red eyes were striking.

The old man returned to his stall and sat down.

「But, blue gem embedded in silver pendant, huh? What are you going to do when you find it?」

「——EH?」

Leo saw it, the scene of the worn out, one room apartment; his home. In there was the leader of the bullying group and several men who seemed to be hunters.

They were wearing silver plate armour and full body black suits. It was the 13th colony's hunter uniform^[8].

「T— that's the guy, big bro!」

Then, a man with tattoo on his face, a mohawk, and a cigarette in his mouth appeared from the door, which was kicked open. In his hand was the crushed photograph of Leo's dear family.

「WHA, WHAT DO YOU WANT!?」

At Leo's shout, the man with cigarette, spat out his cigarette.

「You're the one who hit my little brother, huh? Though I don't know what your problem with this guy is, your attitude pisses me off. Are YOU trying to pick a fight with me?[\[9\]](#)」

When he said that, the other hunters came out from the room, one after another. They held weapons in their hands. The patterns engraved in their swords was the result of inserting a small tube into the sword to move the liquid of a magic gem at the handle part.

They were hunters equipped with sword-type magic tools; moreover, there were three of them.

「Captain, do we really need to kill him?」

To his subordinate words, the mohawk man spoke with foul eyes.

「It's a warning. To how what happens when someone goes against against the guild.」[ED2: so punching your brother is rebelling against the guild huh.]

The subordinate shrugged his shoulders and walked towards Leo. Leo couldn't move his body.

(I— I'm going to be killed !)

He was vexed.

It would end, just like that... when he thought that, he heard a voice come from somewhere.

『.....Seriously, it was just me alone when I woke up. Also, aren't things getting really interesting out there?』

Whose voice was that? Though he heard it from nearby, there was no one other than the man, who was approaching him with a sword in hand, near Leo[\[10\]](#).

Even when he looked at his surroundings, currently there were only the people who were trying to kill him nearby. The apartment's tenants also hid themselves. It just showed how fearsome the existence called hunters were. Using magic

tools, they fought against monsters.

With only that, they were an abnormal existence from the standpoint of an ordinary person.

『Well then, I should introduce myself this time oops, did I just miss the timing, where'd that guy come from? Oh well, saves me from various troubles then.』

The voice was, for some reason, grumbling and speaking to Leo. They spoke with an overly-familiar manner.

『You're my direct descendant, right? But, I wonder how many years has been passed since then... oh well, it's not a big deal. Oi, boy』

「EH?」

The voice said that, as if enjoying it a little, to the curious Leo.

『Shout out loud if you want to leave this place in one piece. That one will definitely come. Whether you're in the bathroom, or the toilet, that one will come no matter what. It's fine already; that one's name is—』

While Leo was at a loss, the C-Rank hunter before him, swung his sword. While looking at Leo, who had become rigid since a while ago, he seemed to think that it was due to fear. It seemed like he couldn't hear that man's voice.

「Well, you just have bad luck, give it up.」

The man said that and swung his sword towards him. Leo then hurriedly shouted aloud; calling that name.

「MO— MONICAAAAAA!!!」

And then, in front of Leo was a red dress— no, it was the twin tailed blonde haired girl wearing red maid clothes from before, giving a flying kick to the hunter.

The blown away hunter was unconscious and crashed against a building in the narrow alley. Her long skirt gently floated, and he could see her socks up to her white thighs. Leo averted his line of sight, sensing his face turning red. That girl landed with beautiful form.

She then, set aside her suitcase, and did a pose.

「In response to the voice who just called me; the cute Monica is here! Oops, nevertheless, who's the idiot that just called my name in an overly familiar manner? The only ones who can call this Monica's name without honorifics, amongst humans are... very few.」

She was pondering while keeping her pose— in front of Monica, Leo was astonished. And then, though the mohawk hunter was also astonished, he was glaring at Monica. He was holding a revolver type magic tool in his hand.

「Wa— watch out！」

Though Leo jumped to protect her from the bullet, Monica didn't even flinch.

「Hmm!?」

And then, he embraced Monica to protect her from the bullets fired by the mohawk hunter— it stopped, the pointed end was dented, as if hitting something in the air, and fell to the ground.

Monica turned her red pupils towards Leo.

「I will be embarrassed if you suddenly embrace me. This Monica has already decided to give her heart to someone since 2000 years a— UOoooooooooooo!!」

Monica suddenly turned in an astonished pose. In the meanwhile, the bullets attacked Monica. But, they never reach Monica. Even so, since she thought it was annoying, she snapped her left hand's fingers.

「It's annoying, you know」

And then, something resembling a white feather manifested in the air and beams of light shot out of it dissolving the mohawk man's magic tool.

「Y— You bitcchhhh!! WHAT DA HELL ARE YE DOING WITH THAT, GORAA!」

Ignoring the man with the mohawk, Monica looked at Leo.

「...Muu, it's unexpected that I would find one in this kind of place. This is certainly the work of fate, right?」

When Leo was still bewildered by the embraced Monica; he heard such voice. The voice of that man.

『.....This girl's the same as ever』

It was an astonished voice.

But, Monica's eyes then went wide open, as if in response to that voice.

「It— It can't be... Chicken dickwad^[11]!」

Monica said that with fumbled words. And then, the mohawk hunter rushed at Monica with a sword in his hand.

「DON'T GO JOKING AROUND, GORAAA!!」

And then, Monica's right hand formed a fist and, carrying Leo with her left hand, she knocked away the mohawk hunter's sword. The mohawk hunter was then blown away and crashed into the same building^[12]. Seeing that scene, the lackey hunters were agape, with their jaws wide open. Leo's classmate, the younger brother, fell on his butt.

『Ooh, he was blown away quite far, huh. By the way, don't these guys look a bit strange?』

When the man's voice said that. Monica glared at the remaining two lackeys.

「I'm in hurry right now. Please leave this place and don't forget to retrieve the two who were blown somewhere.」

Both of them ran away, retrieving their fellows and leaving that place. The onlookers then appeared from the narrow roads and windows; they were looking at Leo and Monica.

All around were people who knew nothing, but light of common gossip hung in that place*. Though Monica's appearance was also quite striking, in its own way, the stimulus for their curiosity was towards the blown away hunters.

Monica sighed.

「Well, Since a detailed conversation is needed, the rough outline is..... huh?」

And then, raising her right hand, Leo was unconscious. Moreover, coming out from his T-shirt was a silver pendant. Its blue gem regained its light; Monica let out a smile on seeing that.

「Though I've slept for quite a while, I met the successor of chicken dickwad

right after I woke up... this person's behaviour is also really good, right? Well then, I should tidy up this area.]

Monica hung her suitcase on her left hand, and moving away while carrying Leo with the other arm. She spoke while looking at the fainted Leo.

「.....Every one of them, there are so hopelessly adorable. Oops, my drool almost came out」

Monica was grinning from ear to ear while looking at the unconscious Leo.

When he woke up, he was in an unknown place.

It was a circular room with round shaped table, with chairs set facing each other. And then, another man besides Leo was sitting in a chair, the man that was sitting before him had blue coloured hair which reached his shoulders.

The man wore a blue garment with white fur on its shoulder. When he stood up from his chair, Leo also followed him and looked at his surroundings.

In that place, were floating silver weapons. There was eight of them.

「A, Uhm！」

『Wa— wait a minute. I know that there's so many things that you want to ask, you want to know what kind of place this is, right? But, let's first start with self-introductions』

His age seemed to be in the middle of his twenties. The man, who had blue coloured hair and pupils, was wearing extremely extravagant clothes. There was even something like a golden circlet on his forehead. The gem encased by that circlet was truly beautiful.

『Let's start with my name first. My name is【Lyle Walt】— that's right, I'm probably one of your distant ancestors of the Walt family! ...By the way, is your family name Walt? It would be quite embarrassing if it's not. As your distant ancestor.』

Leo nearly fell off his chair at the last unconvincing lines but somehow managed to understand that the ones before him were his distant ancestors.

「I'm Leo. Leo Walt! E~r, eer could it be that Lyle, that... was from the empire era, a long time ago?」

Lyle hoisted both his arms, and turned towards the ceiling.

『Ossu! I'm a big shot! That's right That Lyle, IS ME! Lyle, the founder of the empire [13]. YOUR ANCESTOR-SAMA! Pleased to meet you.』

Leo was unable to keep up with the situation. And then, though he thought that there were various things he needed to ask Lyle

『Well then, how many years have passed now? Or rather, it was strangely narrow outside, there was also something like a ceiling, right? This, where is this? I also just awakened, so there are many things that I don't understand.』

There were so many dubious things about that Lyle person.

ライエル(`・ω・')「.....」

ライエル(・ω・｀)「Is it just me or is it so lonely here?」

[1] [TL : Shingeki no Kyojin] [ED2: or any of the colonies back in the middle ages]

[2] [TLI : the shape of colony in general is just like a regular pipe (this will be explained later)]

[3] [ED2: well that sounds like a flag for it to be stolen/lost forever]

[4] [ED2: good advice sh*tty parents. Don't want the MC ruined by your scum kids. Also isn't this a Template?]

[5] [PF: Pfft, pussy] [ED2: wait, the kid has 2 people with him why not use them instead of relying on your bro.? Coward]

[6] [ED2: seriously? who freakin giggles while watching a kid get beaten up?]

[7] [ED2: so suitability level with magic tools being high = strength eh? Kenpachi Zaraki would disagree with you on that one]

[8] [TL : maybe look like the uniform in fist of north star]

[9] [PF: Your attitude pisses me off more]

[10] [ED2: guess the author forgot about the other 3 men huh]

[11] [ED2: hahaha. oh that name is just so bad]

[12] [TL : Dragon ball battle reference] [ED: considering the number of fights in that show, couldn't every fight scene be considered a reference?] [ED2: actually

couldn't that be a reference to fight scenes from almost all battle series?]

[13] [PF: He founded an empire huh...] [ED: hence the spoiler warning]

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Chapter 1: Please Give Up On It

Here's some more Leo! ...And where's my proofreader!?

Translator : Cnine

Editor : Vrryou

Proofreader :

Chapter 1: Please Give Up On It

『...Eh? In other words, humanity has confined itself behind a wall and live mostly underground? What the hell. I was only stuck in a castle and I already found it unbearable!』

Colony.

It was a cylindrically shaped structure where humanity resided.

Its rather lengthy structure was the result of digging further down into the Earth whenever the colony expanded.

Thanks to the existence of food production plants within the colony, there was no need to cultivate fields outside.

Even so, the living space for humans on earth was greatly reduced.

Complaining with a pale expression in front of Leo『I was confined for a month by my wives. What the heck... Why couldn't I leave?』was【Lyle Walt】— once known as the founding father of the last empire that ruled the continent.

Referred to as the Divine Emperor, he became the subject of many tales and epics.

And to Leo... he was a distant ancestor of【Leo Walt】.

Although the lineage was considerably distant, Lyle still considered Leo to be a successor.

The biggest reason was the pendant that hung around Leo's neck. A blue gem — the【Blue Jewel】embedded in a silver pendant was proof of Lyle's successor.

『Uhm, Emperor-sama?』

Unsure as to how he should address him, Leo added 「sama」 for the time being. However, Lyle rejected him with a carefree wave of his hand.

『It's usually Your Highness, Your Majesty, or something like that right? But you're my descendant so you don't need to use any honorifics. Actually, you can use my nickname! How 'bout you call me Lay-chan?』

「...There's no way I can call someone that looks to be in their late 20s Lay-chan.」

Lay-chan— Lyle's figure appeared to be a man in his prime, somewhere in the early 30s.

Yet Leo got the impression that he was even younger than that. It could be said that he had youthful face.

『Good comeback! Leo-kun has the tsukkomi attribute huh? I was worried that I was going to be lonely inside this gem by myself but that's not the case anymore!』

「...somehow, it feels like the image I had has been shattered.」

His Imperial Majesty— Leo was surprised to learn that he was a descendant of such a great person, but carefully thinking it over, he realised it had been over 2000 years since the Empire's founding. Surely there must have been many descendants who have inherited his talents.

Sitting on the chair, Lyle crossed his legs. He leaned back and put an elbow on the armrest. Tilting his body a bit, he rested his face in his hand.

『Now then, how about we stop with the jokes here? I was quite surprised to hear the current condition of the world but the human race is tenacious so they won't have a problem surviving.』

Mankind once ruled over the entire continent. However, with the introduction of magic tools and the completion of the colony, humanity was ironically deprived of their land by demons.

『However, when humanity became stronger thanks to breakthroughs in magic tool development, they confined themselves in labyrinth-like structures. It's the reason how the demons were able to reverse their positions.』

Labyrinth.

Nowadays, the number of hunters challenging them had decreased.

Only high ranking hunters armed to the teeth with magic tools dared to tackle them.

Yet, to Lyle, the colony resembled a labyrinth.

The sky could not be seen from any layer below the middle layer.

The colony stretched down into the ground.

The narrow passages were no different from a labyrinth.

『Oh well, now it's my turn to tell you about the jewel, right?』

When Leo finished explaining the current circumstances, Lyle began his explanation about the jewel and how Leo was able to dive into it.

The jewel— was a tool capable of recording【Skill】but have been mostly replaced with magic tools in the present era.

To pass on the skill, Lyle who was a skill user could teach Leo how to use it.

「B— But, I... I have barely any proficiency with magic tools.」

To the Leo muttering in frustration, Lyle gave him a puzzled look.

『...Hm?』

「I can't even use magic tools embedded with a skill. I'm incompetent...」

『Hm~?』

Maybe, even if Lyle teaches me the skill, I still won't be able to use it. Leo's current train of thought was as such.

Leo opened his mouth.

「Even though you're willing to teach me, I just don't have any talent for it. My proficiency with magic tools is almost non-existent and I'm garbage at handling skills...」

Lyle straightened himself.

『An adventurer. No, you want to become a hunter right?』

「...I do. But, I don't have a suitable magic tool so I don't know if I can possibly become a hunter. Yet I still want to become strong. Otherwise, I can't prove that

my father wasn't an underdog.]

Listening to Leo's circumstances, Lyle displayed a disgusted look.

『That... even though I had an idea, it's worse than I thought.』

「Tha— That can't be! Do you mean that because I can't use magic tools I should give up!? There's no way I ca—」

Lyle quickly waved his left hand.

『No. That's not it. To regain your father's honour. That, well, I personally don't agree with it but it's admirable. But you know? You're making a fundamental mistake.』

「A— A mistake?」

Lyle stood up from his chair and swept his right hand aside. From within the jewel, many memories were projected.

『I was also involved in the development of magic tools you know. Actually, it became my past-time after I handed the throne over to my son. Well, I guess you could say the advancement of magic tools were because of me.』

In the era where Leo lived, the performance of magic tools greatly outstripped those of Lyle's time by leaps and bounds. However, Lyle continued to speak,

『First and foremost, Leo-kun— no, Leo, your dream of becoming a hunter using magic tools... give it up.』

Gritting his teeth and clenching his fists, Leo hung his head down.

「I refuse.」

『Eh?』

「NEVER! Even if that's the case, I won't give up. Just because I can't use magic tools it's hopeless!? Do I have to keep being treated like a fool!? Father... Father fought to defend the colony... he's not an underdog.」

Lyle watched Leo while putting a hand to his chin. When Leo finished his outcry and was trying to hold back his tears, Lyle called out to him in a gentle voice.

『Will you hear me out until the end? Also, I never said that you had to give up

becoming a hunter. Your affinity with magic tools is bad so I wanted to show an alternative.]

「Not using magic tools?」

Leo was not able to comprehend those words. A hunter was someone who defeated demons using magic tools. It could even be said that【Hunter = Magic Tools User】.

Lyle caught Leo's attention and directed it at one of the memory projections floating around the room.

『Magic tools in this era are really amazing, right? It's quite a difference when compared to my time. But you know...? That's why the people of my time weren't so weak. Look.』

The figures of multiple people squaring off against a demon could be seen. They did not carry any magic tools and their equipment looked like toys compared to current magic tools.

And yet... the hunters... no, the adventurers, how did they defeat that huge【Land Dragon】?

「A-amazing.」

『On the other hand you guys have amazing magic tools, and yet why do you live in a labyrinth-like... co— colony? I find it very difficult to understand why humanity lives in hiding. I mean, you don't even need to rely on magic tools. Isn't that what a hunter is? One that defeats demons right? Then, they're not any different from adventurers in my time. It's not like they suddenly became experts. It's easy.』

「That is...」

Lyle smiled as Leo gazed at him with sparkling eyes.
The possibility shown to Leo.
The way of fighting without using magic tools.

『I was also an adventurer before I became an Emperor you know. Well, even if things have changed quite a bit, you don't need magic tools to defeat demons. Well, since you're not a noble, I can help you become a hunter. If you'd like, why

don't we aim to become the strongest together?』

Leo stood up from his chair and pumped both his fists.

『I'll aim for it! I'll aim to become the strongest in the world!』

However, Lyle shook his head from side to side.

『Ahahaha, there's no such thing as becoming the strongest in the world. Even though I was pretty strong, I was never able to win against my wives. Haa... for all 25¹ of them to go against me, so cruel.』

Seeing Lyle sigh, Leo became slightly uneasy. However when Lyle cleared away the surrounding memory projections, Leo seated himself again and waited for Lyle's next words.

『But, there's one condition for my cooperation.』

『Condition, is it? Uhm, what sort of condition?』

Lyle directed his gaze at Leo, all traces of joking had disappeared from his face.

『Don't worry, it's not an outrageous condition. You just have to be able to use all 24 skills recorded in the jewel and master them up to their third stage. The last one is—』

Skills have a third stage?

At the same time, Leo was also surprised that the jewel held 24 skills.

In fact, isn't the jewel too amazing?

『I don't mind if you become hunter and become strong. But you know... I won't permit using your father as a reason. I want you to seriously think about your own motivation.』

When Lyle finished speaking, Leo's consciousness was ejected from the jewel.

When he opened his eyes, he was back in his own room.

He jumped out of bed and looked around his room. The damage the room sustained before was gone, and everything was tidied up.

Leo grasped the silver pendant that had fallen from his neck.

『Was that... a dream?』

Was the scene that he saw just now only a dream?
Wondering what just happened, he heard a sound from the kitchen neighbouring his small room.
It was the sound of cooking.

Although he tried standing up in surprise, his body felt abnormally dull.

A girl appeared with a ladle from the kitchen because of the noise he made when trying to get up.

「Oya, did you just wake up? I cleaned your room of my accord. Well, there was a lot of damage but everything is good as new at the hands of this Monica. Oh and I also borrowed your kitchen.」

「...Mo— Monica... san?」

A red maid outfit. With her red irides and blonde twin tails, she smiled at Leo.

「Monica, please call me so. Or even Poyopoyo if you like. Actually no, just call me Monica. Although Poyopoyo is alright, it feels a little...」

Monica looked like she was seriously mulling over something.

Noticing Leo's troubled expression, she smiled at him again.
She put away the ladle and performed an elegant bow.

「Even if all the chick-samas are no longer fledglings, I'm glad I'm able to meet a legitimate successor of chicken-dickwad. And so Leo-sama... will you allow this Monica to stay by your side?」

「Stay by my side? Uhm, but I don't have any money so your salary—」

However Monica only shook her head, her twin tails waving beautifully.

「It doesn't matter. I want to take care of you. I don't need money either. Only, I want to serve you. Because that is this Monica's joy.」

Leo was at a loss at what to say to the Monica bowing in front of him...

『...You, you're not still thinking about raising no good kids now, are you?』

...Lyle's voice was heard. As if she heard him too, Monica looked up with blushing cheeks.

「UOOO!!! It's been a while since I've heard chicken-dickwad's disproving voice.

This drooling Monica is deeply moved... oops, can't do that. Maids can't drool. You were just disappointed because the chick-samas did not grow up into the ideal chick-samas we imagined.」

Leo tilted his head in confusion.

「Chick-samas?」

『Well, it was a miracle they grew up into respectable adults when you kept trying to spoil them in secret.』

Lyle spoke with as if recalling a fond memory while Monica gnawed on her apron in annoyance.

「It's regrettable that the hybrid chick-sama from the useless Shannon-san ended up exceeding all our expectations! I wasn't able to be satisfied with raising chick-sama since chick-sama was such a good kid. That's why, I'll raise Leo-sama to become a shining symbol of useless kids.」

「I refuse.」

Monica stiffened up at Leo's instantaneous reply. She immediately returned to the kitchen and the sound of boiling could be heard.

Lyle spoke in astonishment. However, a trace of nostalgia could be heard from his voice.

『She hasn't changed at all.』

「Uhm, Monica-san, what in the world are you...?」

Leo asked about Monica when she returned with the cooked food.

「Well, I'll tell you about one day but for now, let's eat. Leo-sama, I've examined your diet but it's really unhealthy. There's only frozen food in the fridge, don't you have anything else? You need to keep a balanced diet. You're currently in the midst of your growth period. No good is a no-no, but this no good won't be permitted alright?」

「Eh, no, but... it's because I don't have time to cook and even if I did, I live alone.」

Leo was an orphan.

As long as the meal filled his stomach, he was fine with it.
Even when he bought some cheap food, he was often not able to finish all of it.
As a result, he started eating only frozen food before he knew it.

「...It's done.」

Monica muttered in a low voice. Hearing the exchange between Leo and Monica, Lyle spoke up.

『Monica... you, why'd you step on a landmine? You usually avoid these kinds of issues.』

Monica began to panic and hurriedly arranged the dishes on the small table.

「Le— Let's dig in! This Monica is confident in her cooking you know!」

That was when Leo noticed something about the meal.

「This...」

Monica revealed a smile.

「Did you notice? This is this Monica's masterpiece of noble origin from 2000 years ago. It was the soup loved by all the wives' chick-samas.」

It was the soup his mother was most proud of.
Seeing it again brought Leo to tears.
It had a nostalgic smell and the taste closely resembled the one his mother made.

「It's slightly different but, this was mother's flavour.」

It was a soup not seen anywhere else.
Remembering his mother's flavour, Leo wept quietly.
Monica smiled gently when she saw his state.

Lyle(;・`ω・')「The battle was endless you know, previous head-samas. It was a 1 on 25 battle... it was so cruel! Besides, I was confined for a whole month. When I was finally able to see the sky again the tears are... the tears are...」
Leo(;・▽・)「...Is it really alright to follow this person？」

1. [ED: Damn, that's some harem...][TL : wait till you reach the end of chapter for the horror of the harem] ↪

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Chapter 2: Let's Begin Preparations

Earlier release than scheduled due to a few things happening. Maybe I should remove this from “Teasers” already...

Translator : Cnine

Editor : Vrryou

Proofreader : EverydaySoCloudy

Chapter 2: Let's Begin Preparations

「To become a hunter? E~tto, those with a high aptitude for magic tools are scouted... otherwise from what I've heard, you'll have to pass a test.」

After Leo finished his meal, Monica began washing the dishes in the kitchen.

As evening approached, darkness began to descend on the colony's middle layer where light coming from the upper layers was limited.

As time continued to flow by comfortably, within the blue jewel— Leo gave a vague answer to Lyle's question.

However, his response only served to further irritate Lyle. Lyle lowered his voice in apparent anger.

『...Hey, you want to become a hunter right?』

Leo started to recall the Hunter's examination in a panic. However, the things he knew only came from general knowledge and everyday conversations.

As a result, he could only rely on the stories his father told him.

「Th— There's an exam for new hunters in spring! So I'll pass that exam and become a hunter. After that, I can get permission to leave the colony.」

Having heard enough, Lyle told him「That's enough」.

『In other words, what you're saying is that you want to become a hunter without even gathering any information beforehand. Sorry but, do you seriously

want to become a hunter?』

Leo hung his head down.

He wanted to become a hunter.

However, he did not know what the examination even consisted of.

Not only that, he did not know how to get to the Guild in the upper layer.

The Guild in the 13th colony was a branch office.

The headquarters was in Redant— near what was once Fort Redant, a new colony was constructed and the headquarters was built there.

『I'll get the details there but... it costs money to enter to the upper layers. If I was a hunter then I wouldn't need to pay.』

Lyle finally understood why Leo did not know the details of the examination after hearing his words.

He had few friends in school.

No, it was because he was the subject of ridicule.

And lastly, given his unfortunate situation, he could not afford to spend money carelessly.

『Well, I sympathize with your plight but what are you going to do if you can't get the necessary information? You said that the examination will be some time in spring, but do you know exactly when? Can you take it anytime during spring? Or will a date be announced? What about the necessary procedures? Do you have to pay to take the exam? Or is it free?』

『Ah— Ahh...』

Lyle sighed at Leo who could not give an answer.

『It's a necessary expense. You can afford to buy the information you need if you look hard enough. Or rather, how much money—』

Monica cut off Lyle before he could finish asking how much money Leo had.

『Monica enters the scene even if you didn't call for her! Are you short on money? You are, aren't you!? Then this Monica has prepared money for Leo-sama. Now, please take it.』

Monica removed a wad of paper money from her apron and set it on the table

in front of Leo with a *Don*.

Lyle looked at the roll of bills.

『It's not silver or gold coins but paper money huh? This sure makes the passage of time evident.』

As emperor, Lyle once considered introducing paper money in place of silver and gold coins.

However, he judged it to be impractical for his time and gave up.

Leo froze at the sight of the bundle of money.

『T— This is—』

『Is 100 000 enough for the time being? I can get some more if needed.』

『N— No need! I don't even need this much! Be— Besides, I can't accept this since I've already received so much from you!』

Monica was dumbfounded at Leo trying to return the money to her.

『I— I knew it, Leo-sama is just like the chick-samas huh? We're trying to make the ideal useless chick-sama and it's not working—』

Leo became perplexed when he heard Monica muttering about how she wanted to make him into a hopeless kid by having him waste money on entertainment.

Leo could not shake off the sense of loss after hearing the voice from the jewel.

However, Lyle spoke up.

『A hundred thousand. I can't gauge the value of that. Leo, how long would it take for an average family to earn that much?』

Leo explained what he knew to Lyle despite not knowing exact value either.

『My family wasn't that well-off. When it was just mother and I, probably around 1000 a month... 3000 for the average family I guess? But, this is the lower part of the middle layer so I'm not sure...』

And then, Lyle spoke in a loud voice.

『I see, so it's roughly equal to two to three years income of an average household huh? Well, this should be enough to cover the initial costs.』

Leo raised his voice in surprise.

「Eh, uhm... Eeeeeh!!! Are you actually planning on spending this money? We can't do that you know. This is Monica's money!」

Sighing, Monica blushed in delight.

「Ufufu, as expected of Chicken-dickwad. To not think about refusing the money, I'm deeply moved. Well, it's a shame he called it a prior investment. ... Even though Leo-sama should play around more and be spoiled.」

Will being around Monica spoil me?

Thinking about such a thing, Leo reminded himself to be careful around her.

「Uh— Uhm, initial costs, you say?」

『Hm? Oh that? The upper layer is for the wealthy, the middle layer is for the middle class, and while not a slum, the lower layer is for the poor, right? If so, then you need to pay attention to your appearance. In society, it's undesirable to be belittled because of your appearance. And other people's first impressions of you will always be based on your appearance.』

At that moment, Monica clapped her hands.

「Well said. To see Leo-sama wear some shabby clothing is quite arousing, but allowing you to dress like that will bring shame to me as a maid. Shall I also prepare a suit for you here?」

『Go to the upper layer after you've fixed your appearance. Even if you can just get information from the guild, doing so at a more reputable location will be safer. I mean, if you got the money, then you might as well use it!』

Leo wanted to rebuke Lyle's words, but it was impossible for him to break Lyle and Monica's high momentum.

『While we're at it, I want to take a look around the colony! I'm quite curious to see what it's like, you know?』

「Please leave it to me. This Monica will do her best to guide Chicken-dickwad and Leo-sama until you two are both satisfied. Well, I only came here a few days ago, though!」

Monica seemed to be delighted while Lyle was also looking forward to the

sightseeing.

『We'll manage with 100 000. Leo, let's go sightseeing. Sightseeing! You also haven't seen much of the upper layer right?』

『Ye— Yeah...』

(Doesn't he feel guilty using Monica's money? I don't understand those two.)

The pillar that ran through the center of the colony also served as an elevator.

Towards the elevator which required a fee to be used, Leo aimed for the Guild in the upper layer wearing a new set of clothes.

He tidied up his appearance and paid the fare for the upper layer.

There were chairs inside the elevator for people to use while waiting.

The surroundings of the colony could be seen from the window; it was a very closed environment.

From inside the jewel, Lyle was delighted to witness the view.

『Amazing! Even though I compared it to a labyrinth, it really is like one. The layout is complicated, just like a labyrinth.』

They were leaving the middle layer and approaching the upper layer. The buildings became visibly cleaner and elegant. And most notably, was the generous use of space.

The lower one descended in the colony, the more numerous and thicker the pillars became. Therefore, the useable amount of space was limited in addition to the ceiling height becoming much lower.

Monica, who was sitting beside Leo, was pampering him.

『Leo-sama, please have some tea.』

『Thank you.』

The two looked completely like a young master with his servant. Because he was told by Lyle to pay attention to his manners, Leo was in a tense mood.

When they left the middle layer, they witnessed the vast amount of open space present within the upper layer, with the ceiling height being twice that of the middle layer.

「Oooh, it really feels like a wealthy neighbourhood. Well, the gap between the poor and wealthy exists everywhere.」

Lyle spoke from a rational standpoint. Leo realised just how cramped the middle layer was upon witnessing the upper layer.

Plants were growing here and there, a blue sky was projected on the ceiling, the upper layer was undoubtedly beautiful.

「So this, is the upper layer?」

There were people who spent their whole lives without ever being about to witness this spectacle.

When Leo thought about it, he realised the outside may be even wider. Such feelings arose within him.

(Is the outside world even wider than this? ...I want to see it.)

Monica spoke to Leo.

「Leo-sama, it's time we've arrived. Shall I prepare for our disembarkment?」

In the elevator that could accommodate 60 people, not even half its capacity was currently filled because most of them had gotten off on the middle layers. Many elevators could be seen moving up and down the huge pillar through the window.

Leo felt slightly nervous to be leaving the middle layer for the first time.

「...Alright.」

The Hunter Guild.

The organization known as the Guild held considerable influence over the colony. One of its branches was located in one of the prime locations of the upper layer.

Although it was said to be just a branch, before the Redant colony took over, it originally served as the Guild's headquarters. That was the story behind this particular branch.

As a result, the Guild branch was an awe-inspiring building.

When they entered the first floor of the building, they were greeted with a

spacious lobby with numerous reception desks.

Monica advised Leo to one of the counters when he was at a loss at what to do.

「Leo-sama, over there seems to be the information desk.」

「Ex— Excuse me!」

A strained voice exited Leo's mouth due to his anxiety.

Although Leo grew red in embarrassment, Monica seemed delighted.

At the information desk where the two arrived stood a woman wearing a suit, the guild staff's uniform.

「Welcome to the Hunter Guild. May I inquire about your business today?」

Leo began to speak but the words were stuck in his throat. It was evident that he was trembling all over.

「Th— That, that you know!?」

The female guild staff looked at the trembling boy with a warm smile. Monica took charge of the conversation in Leo's place.

「We'd like to confirm the contents of the Hunter Examination, it that alright?」

The female staff nodded. It seemed like she understood Leo's plight.

「Why of course. But, please know that despite a hunter's guaranteed rewards and services, it is a job where you must put your life on the line. Please decide on whether or not you'd like to take the exam once you've read and understood this.」

While saying so, the female staff handed over a pamphlet. The examination schedule for the 13th colony was written in the pamphlet.

「The necessary documents are recorded in the pamphlet. You can take the documents home with you and once you're done, return it to a receptionist here or by mail. After confirming that you intend on taking the exam, an examinee number will be issued to you. If you don't get your documents to us 2 weeks before the start of the exam, you won't be able to participate in the exam this year, so please be careful.」

Leo was relieved to receive information he had not known before.

The examination date was still over a month away.

So he still had time to take the examination.

(...Thank goodness. Had I came only on the examination date, I wouldn't have been able to take it.)

The female staff continued her explanation.

「After you receive your examinee number, please come to this guild branch with it on the exam day. After all examinees have arrived, you'll all be moved to the examination hall. Oh, and you can bring magic tools. You may bring as many as you like but you must arrange your own means of transportation if it's too big. Well, I doubt there's a need to bring such a large magic tool though.」

Having heard that, Lyle considered a possibility.

〔Magic tool, huh? Well, Monica is one too in a sense...〕

「The contents of the exam will be announced on the day the exam takes place. The first round of the exam consists of just a simple written test as well as a physical test. However, the second round is very rigorous and may result in death. The contents of the exam changes every year so this is all I can tell you right now.」

After passing the second round, there was one last round.

One would become a hunter if they passed the third round of the exam. Leo became uneasy when he heard about the physical portion of the examination.

「Uhm, about physical test—」

The female staff smiled at him.

「Don't worry. It's only a general assessment. The physical test is something like a health check. It's to see whether or not you're fit for the second round. Now then, you can find the rest of the details in the pamphlet. Please take it home with you.」

Monica momentarily glanced over at Leo.

「...May I see the documents?」

「Sure, no problem.」

Monica took the documents as Leo skimmed over the pamphlet.

After the explanation ended, Leo and Monica left the guild.

It was the time for their previously discussed sightseeing tour of the upper layer.

The cityscape of the upper layer was breathtaking.

There were a great number of planted trees and spacious roads devoid of garbage. Leo was gaping at the vast difference between the middle and upper layers when Monica cleared her throat.

Leo looked ahead in a hurry while Lyle pleasantly laughed at how awestruck he became.

『It's a refreshing sight isn't it? This will become your base of operations once you become a hunter.』

「But, that's only if I become one, right?」

To the Leo who was full of self-doubt, Lyle spoke in a serious tone.

『So what if you fail? We'll deal with it when the time comes. What you need to focus on right now is preparing yourself for the exam. If you think about it, your chances of passing have risen considerably with us here.』

Leo might have even missed the exam without knowing.

Leo felt ashamed that he knew next to nothing despite wanting to take the examination.

「If I was alone then I wouldn't have taken the exam, huh? Hahh... I'm glad we came here today.」

To escape from the lower and middle layers, the only way was to become a Hunter.

However, it was difficult to say that many were successful.

Other boys like Leo were not a few in number. They were all trying to gather what sparse information about the exam that was available.

Even the guild would not offer any help to people who do not make an effort

to prepare for the examination.

While Monica was walking diagonally behind Leo,

「Well, you can now take the exam with this. Apart from the second round, we were able to get the details pertaining to the first round, right? We'll prepare you for the second round of the exam in this one month.」

〔One month, huh? It's a bit tight on time but I can teach him the basics as well as how to fight. It'll also take time to master more than one skill. In that case, I guess it's time to put him through some intense training?〕

The two were happily discussing Leo's hunter examination.

When Leo heard Lyle talking about teaching him how to fight, Leo realised something.

(That's right. I need to learn how to fight since I'll be facing monsters once I become a Hunter.)

Leo vaguely thought that he would learn how to fight once he became a hunter.

However, he had a miserable aptitude for magic tools.

It was necessary for him to become strong in his own way.

(That's right. The usual methods are no good. I must learn how to fight from ancestor-sama.)

While Leo hardened his resolve, a few words shot out from Lyle—

〔Yosh, let's take this chance to grab a meal. Night will have fallen by the time we get back... so let's rest for today and do our best starting tomorrow!〕

—saying to do their best starting tomorrow.

Monica (° ∀ °)o≡°「As expected of Chicken-dickwad! To use up all the money given by a woman without a second thought... I absolutely love it!」

Monica (*>ω<)「Even though it's good that the chick-samas inherited Chicken-dickwad's spirit... Even though it's good... The chick-sama's didn't immediately take it from these hands, this Monica is... can't pants take it at all!」

Lyle Σ(`∀` ||;)「Don't say such scandalous things! I'm only borrowing it for

now. It'll be returned eventually! ...by Leo that is.]

Leo (; °д°) 「No, that... well, I'll return it but... I'll return it but... ! Somehow this doesn't sound convincing at all! 」

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Chapter 3: Secret Art? It's Nothing Like That

[Unedited]

This project has been dropped

I'm only releasing this at the request of one of our readers. This is both *unedited* and *not proofread* in any capacity so expect a lot of errors. We will *not* be continuing this series. Cnine is no longer interested in the series and I do not have time to be editing another series. This project is up for grabs for any interested parties. Leave a comment if you would like the full script (raw text after translated text).

Translator : Cnine

Editor :

Proofreader :

Chapter 3: Secret Art? It's Nothing Like That

Leo and Monica come back to the middle layer.

Upon arriving, the room has devastated again. But, the culprit didn't lie in wait for him this time, what was waiting for him is the landlord.

Tearing of his already thin hair, turned his irritated expression toward Leo.

「Leo-kun. Were you aiming to become a hunter? It's embarrassing when you didn't say it quickly!」

When Leo entering his room in a hurry, it's throughroughly shredded in piece this time. Household furniture, even all of his clothes, each one of them was completely shredded to piece, and on that place was the photograph of his family. It was burned after they tear it up.

「T-that's」

The lanky man who torturing the landlord, and trying to crush Leo*. [TLC*: 打ちひしがれるレオに、大家である細身の男性は責め立てる。]

「Why it turned into this! Reimburse it, you must reimburse it !」

He can't hear Lyle voice from inside the jewel. But, Monica who's nearby said.

「You're mistaken about something right. In this case, you shold ask the reimbursement from the one who's wrecked this room. Moreover, if the one who's doing it is a hunter, you should reporting it to the guild right?」

And then, the landlord become flustered. The landlord is trying ambiguously deceiving her by saying 「With things going around recently, story of the hunter is. currently」while his eyes swimming around suspiciously.

Meanwhile, Leo was fall on his knee with both his hands covering his face in what used to be living room.

「This is too much. A hunter is supposed to protect the weak right?」

To Leo who fall into such state, Lyle say a little too blunt words.

『What you saw before you right now is the reality. I mean, hunter is a human too. They're doing offense too, I believe they will do this rather than from me*. Well, let's contact the guild』[TLC*: 犯罪だってするし、むしろ俺からすればそういう連中だと思ったぞ。]

The older brother of Leo classmate. It seems that the culprit is that Mohican hunter and his co. Monica was nodding when she saw the scratches of the completely wasted room.

「Hou..... so they didn't use metal sword. There's burn marks there. They're doing it with magic tool, even looking at the evidence so far, the possibility that the culprit is hunters is」

Suddenly, the landlord[male] shouting at them.

「Those are trivial matter ! J-just how can I live peacefully when the hunters is set their eyes on me in such lower part of middle layer! Leave at once! ALL OF YOU, LEAVE THIS PLACE AT ONCE!」

Leo clenched his fist and looking at the eyes of landlord who become frightened due to the terror. He was annoyed.

Though his father said that hunter job is to protect everyone, even he never thing that they will do such things*. Monica then cutting in while looking at the landlord. [TLC*: 父が言っていたみんなを守るハンターが、こんな事をするなど思いたく

もなかった。]

「From now on? Isn't that too cruel just for that reason? Furthermore, even in this situation, the contract is——」

She's trying to rent the room. It seems there're also various things in the contract too. But, the landlord was really want Leo to leave at once.

It's show just how much he feared that hunter.

And then, Lyle「Fumu」while saying.

『Whatever you say, it's just cruel. Well, you also need servility if you want to live in this kind of environment, huh If that was the case, then let's go back to the upper layer. The assembly place of the examination is in the upper layer anyway. Moreover, since we also still have some money if it were just for the cost of 1 month living in the upper layer. Moreover, it's just the right opportunity』

Lyle already treating as if Monica's money were his own money. But, Leo haven't answering at all.

The landlord is glaring at Leo and Monica. Maybe he was more scared of those offenders who devastated that room who's hunter more than those two*. [TLC*: 二人よりも、ハンターである部屋を荒らした犯人たちが怖いのだろう。]

If one had to say then, someone like Monica who could send those hunters flying is surpassing them in all aspect. But, being in hostile relationship with the guild — which is an organization at the level of managing the colony was something that definitely must be avoided at all cost if one want to live in the colony.

『However, how can a guild holding this kind of authority is the country didn't do anything?』

Even Leo lost his willpower to answer when Lyle raised such question.

They then returning to the upper layer again.

They entered an inn in the upper layer and booked a double room for a long stay. Though it didn't have such special high class feeling as a room, it still a room of the upper layer hotel. The cost for it was something that will make the eyes of

the dweller of the middle layer to popped out.

The room itself have two single bed, with bathtub and toilet included. Though the window can't be opened, flowing image reflected on it. It's currently portraying the nightscape.

Monica hit touching her cheek with the palm of her hand while making a sigh.

「Geez. It really projecting every kind of image. The air cannot circulating at all. Oh well, we can only see the wall of the opposite building」

Lyle astonished when he heard about that.

『How the hell the air will circulating ! Why it made into airtight!』

Monica politely answering to his surprise.

「Please look at that direction. The air duct is existing for the air circulation. Everything is solved with magic tool. That's how the modern era today. Well, since the energy efficiency has considerably improved, the energy resources too」

『.....I don't know what's the meaning in that though. I mean, all of that problem can be solved just by opening the windows right?Well then, Leo』

Lyle called out to Leo who's currently sitting on the bed and with his head hanging down. Though Leo shoulder twitching a little, he gave no reaction other than that.

『Are you getting angry and punched your classmate ?』

Leo nodded a little. And then, talking while sobbing.

「I've enduring it till now. But, they keep treat me like a loser even till the end」

But, Lyle then saying something that hit right at the painful point.

『And, this is the result of that. Although with that action of yours, you lost the place to live. What do you think this will turned out without me or Monica around*? Even the previous case of hunter exam. Did you ever think the consequences of your action?』[TLC*: これで俺やモニ力がいなかつたら今頃どうなっていた？]

Leo unable to retort to his pricking despite it painful to hear. Monica is rummaging something while sitting silently on the bed. Without looking at his direction.

「Y-You——」

『You can't make an excuse since you're a kid. You're alone. You must decide it yourself. Well, though I'm not someone who can say something like this, throw everything and began anew*. Or, you can keep on with comforting yourself. Taking one step forward feel harder when you're an adult than when you're a kid』[TLC*: まあ、俺も人のことは言えないが、流されているだけだと本当になにもかも失うぞ。]

Because the possibility become more and more distant once you become an adult. After saying that, he asked to Leo.

『De, da. Do you remember the reason that you want to become a hunter? Or, do you have another goal aside from becoming a hunter? I'm fine with whichever your choice is. This is your life』

Leo think that what Lyle say is somehow irresponsible.

(It certainly was my fault. Since I always retorting, thinking that this is just simple matter that's why, this kind of thing happen. Even so, isn't that feel vexing. Should I really not punch those kids? My retort is even made me unable to fulfill father wish* !)[TLC*: 僕はやり返したら.....父さんの夢を叶えても駄目なのかよ！])

「W-won't that will made me unable to realizing father dream?」

『That's your father dream, it's not your dream right?. Though I won't say that you're wrong for carrying his dream. What are you actually want to do? That's also quite important right?』

「I will become strong, the strongest hunter and then, become a hunter that protect everyone』[TL : Uhm, this is somehow similiar to Emiya Kiritsugu flag]

And then, Lyle say. Asking an ill-natured question.

『And that's, even to the classmate who's bullying you ? And that Mohican

too? From my perspective, they're weak person. To put it bluntly, if it was you, surpassing them is just a simple matter. But, the moment you surpassing them, will you become the side who's protecting them?』

Leo was speechless.

He never think that far. But, when he fulfilling his father dream And then, Leo putting a thought into it.

(If it was father, I wonder how he will do it ?)

Lyle spoke to Leo while giggling.

『It's fine. If you're wishing for a revenge to them. I will lend you my wisdom, the's also Monica with us. You might be not wishing for a revenge at all but, you must clear your heart from it*. THough, well I'll also worried the moment you does that. Are you being troubled over how to supress your frustation or, are you being troubled in how to retort me so, which one it is?』[TLC: 復讐とかなにも生み出さないけど、気は晴れるよ。]

HE then recalling his father words when he's still but a young kid.

In the now lost small house. At that time, his father told the very young Leo.

『Leo, father will definitely become stronger. And then, I'll become a strong hunter who protect everyone』

『I-Isthat so ? Ahahaha, even father has yet to be able to protect since I'm still weak. But, I will definitely become stronger someday. I definetely will become a splendid hunter!』

Leo recalling his father smile. Even if he's retiliating, his father won't be happy for that. Without a doubt, he's still trying to become strong even when he's called as underdog.

Leo opened his mouth.

『I won't choose either way. I..... Want to become a hunter like my father』

『.....Let's say, is it because he's weak too* ?』[TLC*: 『.....それは弱いまま、って事かな？】

To that harsh words, Leo answered without even flinching a bit.

「Even if he weak ! Father still want to become a hunter that protect everyone. He said that he'll become a hunter that protect everyone. That's why, I'll also become that kind of hunter. Moreover, those kind of people aren't a hunter. Doing something like trample on the others borrowing the guild authority I, definitely will change that kind of method. 」

Lyle was pondering when he heard Leo's word. And then, let out a sigh.

『.....Ha~h, whatever. I won't say anything if you want to follow after your father back. Well, you want to become a splendid hunter. If that was the case, we can't go without thinking some plan』

Plan? Leo tilting his head when he heard Lyle saying that without any hesitation.

『Well, should we use bribe? I wonder how much we need in order to kill a particular hunter. We didn't need to go all out to kill him and, should we bribe the guild management to deal with him, we should be looking for a sufficient weakness, look if you're so inclined, we can even send an assassination request to the people from the same line of business, or accidentally leave them in the wild and explained that it was done by the monsters right? And build a connection while we're at it so that we can gain an upper hand during the exam. Something like Wide array of connection to the upper brass is important afterall.』

Leo unentionally shrieked out.

「Aren't you the worst here ! You're scary for thinking about something like that! 」

『YOU ! Your opponent already using such way though, he seems to not thinking about counter measures at all! How can you blame me for thinking about the same things as your opponent! If that was the case, then let's see how your own plan is! 』

Leo pondering about it for a while, and say. Even while doubting whether that was correct decision himself, but.

「Le-let's complain to the guild, we will deal with him according to the rule --」

『Fu~n, do you have some evidences ? You need some evidence if you

say that they did those things to you. Those onlooker definitely won't say that those hunter are the culprit. Since they're fearing of the ritribution that will befall upon them. Well then, where's those important evidence?』

Leo doesn't have any evidence at all.

Certainly, there was a possibility that he'll be kicked out of the guild if he didn't have any evidence. In the end, Leo could only hang his head in shame. After all, he also didn't know whether the guild will be impartial. There was also the possiblity of his case being left alone like that without any further investigation.

There're some hunters with similiar attitude like that Mohican afterall.

But, Monica then get up from the bed she sat to, and give her approval to Leo opinion after hearing Leo and Lyle story.

「Alright, that's about it right. And then, Chicken dickward. Please don't tease Leo-sama too much. You have some plan in your mind right? Moreover, there's nothing wrong with Leo-sama opinion. There's no need to report this incident to the goverment "Upper Brass" right」

Lyle said 「I's exposed huh」 with a low voice and smiling wrily. Leo can only inclined his head in confusion and, Monica then laying out somekind of picture card.

Being drawed on that portrait was the picture of Mohican and his gang.

「That's！」

「I drew this portrait from theimage recorded in my memory. The matter of them trying to drive you out of your living place, and then let's also put together a report about them truly trying to kill you. By the time you received examinee number in the exam, we will also acclaimed loudly about this evidence right on that place. Since this Monica also have the recorded image and voice」

Leo eyes was sparkling as she saw Monica.

「That's AMAZING, Monica-san ! To think that you're even recording the voice and image at such time!」

Thereupon, Lyle said to Leo.

『Eh ? I mean, she's an automaton you know. What she sees and hears

naturally remained as data. Have you not noticing such things till now?』

「That's right. Well, this MONICA is obviously different with those lowly and mass-produced models. Unlike those lowly mass-produced-degraded version which spreading worldwide but, I'M SPECIAL!」

Leo is wearing an astinished face toward Monicca. No one but one person saw it anyway. He of course know about automaton. Eventhough he know about it, he never knew that an automaton is this closely resembled human.

「Eh, don't tell me Is that mean you're an aquaintances of ancestor-sama inside the gem」

Monica raise her thumb, and facing toward Leo with smile on her face.

「Yes. The maid who always supporting that chicken dickward from behind the scene is this MONICA. By the way, I'll give you a warning that I'll cry if you're shouting something like 2000 years-old hag. And the next night, the next one after that too, I'll continuously weeping close to your ears EVERY NIGHT, and I'll keep to do that till it reach the point in which you can't sleep without hearing me crying. Woops, though I said every NIGHT, I'll sometimes dissapear for VER. UPGRADE. Please don't think that I'm still the same Monica from 2000-years ago. I'M AN EVER CHANGING CUTTING EDGE MAID!」

Leo's not even understood what she said. Rather than can't understand, the contain of her words . Furthermore, the complexity of her words is far surpassing his current knowledge.

(I, who share the blood line of the emperor of the empire from 2000 years ago, Monica-san is an automaton during that time, honestly even father will be really)

Leo grasping his head with both of his hand, and saw Monica face when he lift his head. And then, Monica showed the last portrait to Leo. Drew in that portrait was Leo's family photograph. It's supposed to be burned, thus Monica drew it again.

「That's ! 」

「It's the reproduction based on the data. Since I think it's a rather important item. Since there's some data regarding it, I'm able to completely reproduce it

afterward.]

Drawn in that were the picture of three people, with Leo being embraced from both side.

「Thank you very much. Truly, thank you, Monica-san!】

That evening.

Leo was being summoned to the inside of the gem, and feced off againts Lyle.

「E~rr, you say how can I become strong ? I can't use magic tools, even the skill」

Lyleis sitting on the chair with his arms folded. And then lookingat the ceiling. On that place was a big and circular blue gem with 24 smaller gems which lost it's color embedded in it's circumference.

『Though I know that you're being anxious since you can't use the skill that was being enchanted in the magic tool, there's actually nothing to worry regarding that』

WHen Lyle said that, Leo directing a hopeful sight. But, Lyle saying it as if disclosing a secret.

『Even in my era, the Walt house inheriting this gem for ever eight generation, that's constitution -- our blood line became specialized in support skill due to that blue gem. And, that influencing you too who received that blue gem by inheritance from many generations. In short!』

Lyle eyes opened wide. And shoved those reality upon Leo.

『On the contrary, thanks gem that we're become specialized in support skill. But, thanks to that too our suitability with the magic tools become lower and lower. Though, I never think that the current generation will be completely lost their affinity with magic tool』

「.....Eh? In other words, you're saying that ..」

『All of you're inheriting those silver pendant right. That one too, in some sense can be considered as magic tool. Though it can memorized the skill of the owner, the're definitely not even one of them can memorized the skill of it's owner till it's 3rd stage right. Moreover, after I did so many troublesome things did I can

use the 1st stage of the skill for a little while*. When there's no one who can tell how the right way to use it, it soon become nothing but a baggage』[TLC*: しかも、俺が色々とやった後はしばらく一段階目も使うのが難しかったし。]

It's lost great deal of power, and it's really troublesome to use even the 1st stage of the skill Iwithout knowing how to use it correctly. Moreover, this is an era overflowing with magic tools. It's power is a little difficult to handle and will returned to it's gem shape due to jamming interference.

When it comes to the gem, it can be used in someway or others

「B-But ! Since it's can use the skill, it's just like somekind of amazing magic too—」

『The blue gem is the symbol of support skill series. Thus, it won't went into "POOF" and show a truly amazing power. Ah, it seems that you're expected that it was truly powerful just now. Since it's different from rear-guard or vanguard series, it's not flashy at all. Well, that's also one of it's charm. Don't tell me, you're expecting that this gem has a truly cool and powerful surekill technique? Or something like Secret skill*? There's really nothing like that in here. Let's just become stronger properly together』[TL*: Ougi]

Lyle tucking up his fist.

Lyle keep betraying Leo's expectation.

To the point that he become suspicious whether Lyle is actually a truly amazing person.

Lyle is looking at Leo's eye who's looking at him with doubtful expression.

『Oy, don't doubt me ! Practically you won't be able to do something like explosive sure kill move but, because of that the support skill series is amazing! Since I could do even something like concuering the entire continent! And uniting it under a single empire. A CONQUEST! 』

「But, the stories up till now is a little

Then, Lyle spoke to Leo.

『The world, isn't only about beautiful things you know ! 』

Leo was looking doubtfully at Lyle who's making noise since a while ago. And

then, even Lyle feel uncomfortable with it and made an unnatural coughing.

『And well, that's about it. There's some other means about what I just said too. Though we can't employ too many plans with your method, that's why it left us with nothing but frontal attack.』

『I think there's something wrong with before since I can't think nothing but frontal attack but.』

Hearing what Leo just said, Lyle eyebrows twitched. It seems he got mad.

『So you didn't choose that frontal attack, I wonder if it's not because you're not confident? Listen, starting from tomorrow you will learn the literacy and improving your basic stamina under Monica instruction. Since it won't be a laughing matter if you're dropped out during the first stage of exam.』

Leo is nodding his head. But, he was feeling worried inside.

『Erm, I already know about the basic but, is there more to it? A method to become stronger.』

『That's? Ah, I will teach you various things about that inside the gem. Well, it's not like you'll be able to do it in just one month but, you should be able to do the basic right? Like magic, how far your mastery in it?』

And, Leo answering his question as if it's just a matter of fact. Moreover, he do that while sending a doubtful look at Lyle.

『Since I say that can't use magic tools, you should know it right? Is that a sarcasm?』

『.....EH?』

『.....Eh?』

The two people who's facing each other inclined their head. When he know that Lyle really didn't say that as sarcasm, he begin to explain.

『How should I say, I mean! You need a magic tools to use something like magic right?』

『.....You're just kidding right. You need an assistance of magic tool to use magic? Eh, is the magic of human in this era that awful? C-can't those of noble

lineage using magic!』

Leo's trying to remember while inclining his head. TRying to recalling to the most limit of his knowledge.

『Nope, I never heard something like noble can use it. Though there's possibilities that some of the noble families who's appearing from the excellent hunter in the guild can use it. Moreover, it's already a common knowledge that you need a magic tool to use magic』

Lyle was perplexed, and muttering a grumbling.

『.....C-Calm down, Me. It's all right. As long as I drill in the basic into your body, you should be able to handle the bullet type*. Certainly MaybeBut, if it's just one month is it possible to transmit my skill』 [TL*: there's no explanation what this bullettype is, but I assume that it were like fireball or ice needle]

Lyle lift his face. When he saw the srious look dwelling in Lyle pupils, he straightened his back.

『First, I will teach you my 1st stage skill—【Experience】. To be honest want to avoid this since it's a perpetual active type but, I don't have any choice for now. You——No, Leo one month from now you, will see a hell』

Leo thought about the gap in Lyle manner till just a while ago.

(And yet, he seems to be happy about it*) [TLC*: (いつもこんな感じなら良いのに)]

—

ライエル(`・ω・')『Hello, this is an important announcement !

レオ(°Д°)『Is that true. Thanks god! 』

ライエル('・ω・`)『I feel that my descendant is rather coldhearted for saying something like that to their own ancestor』

ライエル(`・ω・')『Oh, whatever ! The truth is【Sevens】.....will be published ! The release date is at 28th december by Hero Bunk-sama. It's the end of this month! 』

ライエル＼(*'▽`)/『Please continue your support for the【Sevens】book too !

HYAAAAAAAAAAAAA! Leo-kun, It's the book telling about my great adventure you know! Now, bow before the great me!』

レオ(°д°)Г.....』

レオ(°д°)Г.....EH? 』